## THE OWOSSO TIMES.

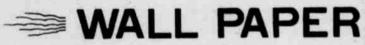
VOL. XX, NO. 24.

OWOSSO, MICHIGAN, SEPT. 9, 1898.

WHOLE NO. 1014



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WELTE & MCLEAN,

owosso, MICH.

Owosso Loses \$175,000 by Saturday Night's Fire.

Has Nearly 200 Citizens Suddenly Thrown out of Work.

WOODARD FURNITURE WORKS COMPLETELY DESTROYED.

MUELLER BROS.' BREWERY, A \$30,000 WRECK.

CROWE & PAYNE COMPLETELY BURNED OUT.

OLD LAND MARKS TO BE SEEN NO MORE.

Narrow Escape for the Whole Business Portion of the City.

For over a score of years thoughtful citizens have scarcely been able to pass the Woodard furniture factory without thinking of the day to come when it was almost inevitable that the building would go up in flames, and it is safe to say that the proprietor scarcely eyer laid himself to rest at night without wondering if that were to be the night when the building would go. But fortune had singularly favored the old land mark and no serious blaze was ever discovered until last Saturday night when the fire burst out with all the pent up energy of nearly fifty years of waiting, and as if maddened at being balked so long, quickly burst out in every part of the great old wooden building, sending its flames and cinders heavenward and spreading danger and destruction in every direction with a heat so intense and a fury so fierce that no power under human control could stop it.

The fire was discovered about half past nine o'clock, and at the first clang of the furniture factory bell, now to be heard no nore, every citizen knew that the time so long feared and dreaded had come in reality. Quick as the alarm was given, however, it was not quick enough to head off the flames which seemed almost instantly to shoot high in the air and to spread over the entire structure. Hose was laid from every available hydrant, some lengths only to be burnt and quickly rendered useless by the heat. The Silsby engine was got out and was soon throwing two streams. The Corunna fire department nobly responding again to Owosso's call for help, made the run with their fire engine in fourteen minutes and quickly added two more streams. But inside of a half hour from the first alarm the familiar outlines of the old building had vanished forever.

Explosion followed explosion as the fire Ice Cream Freezer licked up different supplies of finishing oils and varnishes, or the frightful heat burst steam pipes. Heavy planers and other machines from moment to moment crashed through the floors which in turn, together with roof and walls, followed them down to the seething white debris below.

In about three-quarters of an hour the magnificent great five-story brick structure the carriages to their homes. adjoining the old part was just as far gone. its walls falling with heavy roars into the building, into the river or into the street. The bridge caught fire and its side walks fine brick building proved as puny and ineffectual as they had in the case of the older wooden part and the whole fell in ruins with their contents of seasoned oak in the

No sooner had the fire got well under way time both establishments were doomed. By this time too, it looked as though the burning brands were so large and the wind by clock work, while the corrugated sheet iron sides of Crowe & Payne's agricultural into flames on every hand. So quickly was this building too a mass of flames that alfact that much of the stock was mounted on wheels.

The efforts by this time had be heroic to save the adjoining property. The barn north of Crowe & Payne's, the wagon shop porth of that, the rear of the Evans property, occupied by Dr. Jopling, and of even a brick building in the rear of the building occupied by Convis & Carmody postoffice was in imminent danger but the work of the men at the nozzles began to tell, and after a most stubborn and exhausting fight the flery storm was checked and Lieut., Lee H. Retan; orderly sergeant, it became apparent that unless it broke out Will Gardner; quartermaster sergeant, [Continued on Page Two.]

THIRTY-NINE OUT OF EIGHTY-SIX.

Co. G Reached the City Late Sunday Night-A Royal Reception-Reward of Merit for Lieut. Retan.

After passing through experiences which would make the strongest hearts turn sick with despair and sometimes with very loathing; after facing Mauser bullets, Spanish shells, hard labor under a tropical sun, the horrors of hospital experience and the reeking fifth of transports where horses occupied the deck above them, the gallant boys of Company G, only thirty-nine strong, at last reached home on Sunday evening, browned, and some of them wasted, but ail of them as uncomplaining, as loyal, and as brave as the day last April when they shouldered their rifles and blanket bags and started out at the country's call.

The company left New York Friday evening and reached Detroit Saturday evening, remaining at the Russell House until Sunday evening when they started for home in a special car attached to the D. & M. excursion train. The citizens had been informed of the time of arrival, however, and it was no small crowd that assembled to meet the train. Among the boys on the train the first thing noticed by those who sat near a window on the north side of the car, after they began te see the lights of the city, was the heavy roar of the water works whistle blowing a welcome as the train entered the city. Among the people at the station the feeling became doubly intense as they stood packed in a close mass, back and beyond the station and kept from the passage way by guards, while the water works whistle and the train whistle announced that the time to walt was short. At last the train arrived and stopped, and amidst the joyous cheers of the crowd and the waving of Old Glory the boys began to step from the car and pass along the crowd. The bands began to play "Home Sweet Home," and to the strains of this grand old song of the heart, which it is fair to say none would have dared to sing or play in the presence of the company but a few days before, the boys formed in double column and marched around the station led by the mayor and the committee appointed to receive them, to the long line of backs and carriages waiting to carry them to their

The crowd was wild with joy, and while some ran or rode ahead to gain a good place at the armory, many walked beside the carriages, eager to catch a glimpse of the browned faces and the brown and blue uniforms, and to hear a word of greeting from the lips of old friends. Another crowd was in waiting at the Washington street bridge, and then all the way up to the armory the erowd grew thicker and thicker until the procession of backs and carriages could hardly pass.

At the armory, which was handsomely decorated with chinese lanterns and a big are light, the procession stopped and Rev. Wedn committee, gave a brief address of welcom which well expressed the feelings of all. The procession of carriages then started again, each one stopping in turn in front of the center of the armory, while a few words and greetings were exchanged with the boys inside who were then taken away in

The next morning, in fast all Monday forenoon, the armory was the scene of a sort of an informal reception, the boys coming down to meet each other and look were badly burned. All efforts to save the over the property placed there for safe keeping, and their friends coming to meet them and exchange greetings with them. Finally the company was lined up in double while the flames licked up the dry kilns rank, a space was cleared away in front and the command, "Company left" was given and executed—the first time any company movement with a front of more in the Woodard Furniture Works than it than one or two men has been executed became apparant that nothing short of a since leaving Camp Alger. Then after the duty being performed the party sat down to miracle would save Crowe & Payne's and company had been halted and seated, and the brewery, and in fact in a very short red and pink carnations had been distributed to each, James Osburn, of the Military Board, called Lieut. Retan forward and whole business portion of the city north and thanking him and the rest of the company east of the factory would be wiped out, the for the honor conferred upon him by placing him on the military board, he remarked silk. The bridesmaid carried yellow and was so strong. The brewery went as though | that Mayor Kerwin had something to say to | white roses. him in behalf of the company. The mayor then presented Lieut. Retan with a implement store warped and twisted and handsome gold watch chain and charm as a quite concealed by green. Asparagus, tairly squirmed in front of the flerce heat very slight token of the great esteem in palms, and ferns were profusely used and with the wooden frame beneath it bursting which they held him and the hearty good will they had for him. It was a simple little incident but it was just the little act of most nothing was saved, in spite of the kindness to touch the lieutenant's heart, and he was unable to say a word in reply. The confidence and sympathy among them was touchingly illustrated and there was scarcely a man among those tried and noble fellows who could or who cared to conceal the tears which came unbidden to his eyes as he saw the lieutenant who "cared for the boys," so affected at their little act of remembrance. Nor were there many dry eyes among the crowd of friends gathered around-few of whom have any realization of the constant labor and care which Lieut. Retan has exerted for the

> Before leaving the armory the company was photographed by Welte & McLean.

The members of the company who came back together Sunday night are, 1st anew in other places its destruction was August Snelder; sergeants, Leo G. Brewer [Continued on Page Two.]

Foot Ball Team Reorganized. The high school foot ball team was re-

organized Wednesday evening with Prin. D. F. Mertz as manager and Jerry Gibbons as captain.

The athletics of the Owosso high school will be conducted under the rules adopted last fall by a conference of high school men intrusted with the subject and will thus be on an equal footing with the other high schools of the state the most of which have already adopted the rules which look toward the purification of high school athletics Only bona fide high school students whose standing is above a certain per cent are ailowed to play on the athletic teams.

The foot ball team began practicing last night and an effort will be made to have a game arranged to take place here during the street fair.

GODSPEED TO DR. AMENT.

A Union Meeting Held at the Congregational Church Sunday Evening.

If ever the adage "Welcome the coming, speed the parting guest" was observed in Owosso it was Sunday night when the city welcomed home her soldier boys after her church congregations had united in a service the whole tenor of which was the wishing of Godspeed on his eastern journey to Rev. Will S. Ament, D. D.

The various congregations and pastors of the city, all of whom have enjoyed so many talks and addresses from his lips during the year he has been home from China that they telt a sort of ownership in him, gladly ac cepted the invitation of Rev. J. C. Cromer, pastor of the Congregational church, where Dr. Ament is a member, to meet in his honor Sunday evening.

Rev. J. C. Cromer presided and with Rev. Carey V. Northrop and Rev. W.W. Benson who took part in the service, testified to his regard for Dr. Ament's character and the assistance derived from him during the past year. E. C. VanNess, of the Y. M. C. A., also expressed his high regard for the work of Dr. Ament along Y. M. C. A. lines.

These earnest tributes were pleasant to hear but the audience sat with intense interest as the familiar voice once more addressed them perhaps for the last time. He spoke of China, of its history, the problems it has solved and has yet to solve. He spoke of the missionary's life-he loves China and feels the joy of a soldier fighting for a popular king when in the service. His heart yearns for his parish of 2,000,000 souls and urges his friends who are left behind him to not be remiss in doing their

Dr. Ament started for his field of labor Monday. Mrs. Ament and son Willie wili remain with Mr. Ament's mother to give the son an opportunity to attend school.

Pierpont-Bentley Wedding.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Bentley was the scene of a pretty tamily wedding Bentley, only sister of Mr. A. M. Bentley, was united in marriage to Mr. Warren Pier pont. The ceremony, which was performed by Rev. J. C. Cromer, took place in the presence of about twenty relatives with Miss Alena Doolittle, acting as bridesmaid and Stanley E. Parkill as best man.

At six o'clock the wedding party entered the front parlor to the time honored and ever inspiring notes of the Lohengrin wedding march, which was played by Miss Frances Jones. The brief, impressive cere mony was performed and the momentous words pronounced which sealed together the lives of these two young people in a union in which they can be of the greatest assistance to each other. After the momentary and truly solemn pause following the completion of the ceremony-the instant when the full impart of the act seems to strike on the minds of all-the congratulations began to pour in, and this pleasant an elaborate wedding luncheon, served in most charming style.

The dress of the bride was of white Persian lawn and Valencienne lace. She carried white roses. The dress worn by the bridesmald was a white organdie over a blue

The decorations of the room were elaborate, the archways and the balustrade being with charming effect, while in places the varied color of asters and nasturtiums relieved the dark green, added to the charm.

The bride has made her home in Owosso but one year, coming from Shortsville, N. Y., where she has many friends. She has also made numerous friends in this city during her stay, and in her new position will doubtless make many more.

The groom is known by all. He has grown up in this city, graduated from the Owosso high school, from the law department of the university and in fact came within a few weeks from graduating from the literary department as well-a thing be would have done had he not been called home to help his father. He is a rising young lawyer, a member of the firm of Kil-patrick & Pierpont, and one of the county circuit court commissioners, having served one term in the latter capacity, and being now a candidate for re-election on the re-

publican ticket.
Mr. and Mrs. Pierpont left for a short visit before returning and going to house-keeping to the house recently purchased by Mr. Pierpont, 702 west Oliver street The will be at home here after October 15th.



Our Soldiers, Off Duty.

Robert Harmon is in the Medico-Chirurgical Hospital, at Philadelphia.

Lieut. Will Case is at his home in Ludington making but slow progress in recovering his health, his digestive organs being

Fred Kamm is at his home in New buffao. He has suffered a relapse and is still quite low.

Arthur Hammond is quite improved. He met the boys in Detroit Sunday.

Orrie Norcross is slowly improving at his home. He met the boys on their way

John Phillips started for Brooklyn Monday morning to meet his brother Mike who was left there in a hospital.

John A. Grow, of Co. E, 35th Mich., was in the city yesterday on pass from Camp Eaton, visiting N Willoughby. He expects the regiment will soon leave for Porto

Private Will Comstock arrived home this morning from Camp Wickoff.

Private Lou Lewis is still at Montauk Point in the hospital, but expects to be home in a few days.

Private Ollie Noonan is another Co. G boy at Montauk Point, who expects soon to be able to come home.

Privates Merton Carl, Bert Eyans, Tom Galusha, Bert Jebb, James Nelson, A. Root, and A. Rubleman, have reached Camp Eaton and are expected home today. Schuyler Crane reached Montauk Point, Sunday.

George Hunt was at Montauk Point when the company reached home.

M. R. Monroe, who was left in Harber Hospital, Detroit, sick with malarial fever, came home Wednesday afternoon with his

Irving Thomas was left behind in Harper Hospital, Detroit, sick with malarial fever, Sunday, but improved sufficiently to reach Owosso Wednesday afternoon.

Will Beers, who brought home a stunning growth of Cuban whiskers, intends to visit his parents in Glascow, Kansas, for about a mouth, when he will again return

and resume work in this city. Word received from John Phillips, in New York, states that his brother, Mike, is improving and out of danger.

Provost Sergeant Bentley secured a two days furlough to attend the wedding of his sister, Miss Ida D. Bentley, to Warren Pierpont, Wednesday evening. He reported at Camp Eaton last night.

Private E. W. Pickworth died early in the week at Montauk Point. He was a member of Company G, but joined after the company had gone to Island Lake and was not known in Owosso. A lively runaway on south Washington

street Monday morning caused the spilling out of the driver of the rig and the breaking of the buggy shafts. No serious injury was received, however.

Corporal and Mrs. Ward Carl, of Gienwood avenue, were given a reception at the Whiting residence, on Corunna avenue, Wednesday evening. The Junior band

Private Henry Lotridge, of the 159th Indiana, is visiting his parents near the city, and announces his intentions of enlisting in the sixth regular cavalry as soon as he is discharged from the volunteer service.

Major Paul M. Roth, who returned with Co. G Sunday has distributed a number of relics to friends. The Major makes a striking appearance in his neat Kakhal uniform and closely trimmed Van Dyke beard. Though somewhat worn and tired out in appearance he is looking well other-

The Baptist Sunday school sent a box of delicacies to Fred Kamm their assistant superintendent at New Buffalo, Tuesday. Instead of being dead or nearly so, he was well enough he said in a letter received this morning, to walk to the train and meet Secy Van Ness and Dr. Ament Monday night. If he continues to improve he expects to visit Owosso soon.

Major's Cement. To stick things use Major's Cement. Be-ware!!! Take no substitute. 1 yr

Gallery in Dimmick Block, 107 N. Washington St.